1	2	3	4
6	Himachal Pradesh	0·23	0·009
7	Jammu & Kashmir	0·08	0·058
8	Karnataka	0·02	0·002
9	Kerala	0·87	0·024
10	Madhya Pradesh	0·26	0·002
11	Maharashtra	0·23	0·001
12	Manipur	0·08	0·080
13	Meghalaya	0·54*	0·088
14	Nagaland	Negligible	..
15	Orissa	1·40	0·453
16	Punjab	3·7	2·649
17	Rajasthan	3·26	0·040
18	Sikkim	Negligible	..
19	Tamil Nadu	0·45	0·083
20	Tripura	0·33	0·027
21	Uttar Pradesh	7·34	1·367
22	West Bengal	3·77	1·622
23	Union Territories	0·09*	0·085
	TOTAL :	35·19	13·006
	Or say:	35 m. hectares	13m. hectares

*Subject to verification.

Export of Agricultural Commodities

348. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in December 1986, at Udaipur, he had stated that exports of high valued non-conventional agricultural commodities was important; and

(b) if so, the names of these commodities, their export potential and Government's plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The Minister of Agriculture, while addressing the 46th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of

Agricultural Economics in December, 1986 observed, *inter-alia,* that it was also important to examine export possibiliy of some high-valued and non-convenional commodities.

(b) There are a number of commodities which offer potentials for expanding exports. Such commodities would include fresh fruits, vegetables, vegetable and fruit products, flower seeds, cut flowers, ornamental plants, meat products, guar gum (pulverised and treated) etc.

The export potentials of such commodities are kept in view while considering production. In the formulation|adoption of the export policy, from time to time, the export possibilities are taken into account. Appropriate export promotion facilities are made available for exports.

Field Programme for Oil Seeds Cultivation

349. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board has recently initiated field programmes for demonstrating the benefits of a shift towards oil seeds cultivation; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A pilot project has been taken up by National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board for diversification of rain-fed wheat to rapeseed mustard. The scheme is in operation in 7 States namely, Bihar, Guarat, Manipur, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal at a cost of approximately Rs. 63 lakhs. The project provides for laying of large sized demonstrations, organising of field days and close monitoring of its progress.

Besides, the Board has sanctioned another programme for popularisation of rabi|summer groundnut cultivation in non-traditional areas. The programme aims at popularising rabi|summer groundnut cultivation in 6 States namely, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. It includes provision of large sized demonstrations field visits, monitoring, and assistance for procurement of 20 per cent of the produce as seed. The programme will cost approximately Rs. 45 lakhs.

Indo-French Cooperation for Agricultural Research

350. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and France had some time back signed a memorandum of agreement for close coperation in agricultural research and allied areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for cooperation in Agricultural Research between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and L' Institute National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA) has been signed at New Delhi on the 10th December, 1986. Memorandum of Agreement in question is not at governmental level.

(b) The Memorandum of Agreement provides for joint preparation and implementaiton of common or complementary agricultural research projects, visit of scientists and technicians, exchange of publications and genetic resources for experimental purposes. The priority areas identified for cooperation are fruit trees, oilseeds, rabbit breeding, viticulture, mushroom, hydrobiology, invitro multiplication and plasticulture.